

CLAIMS:

1. A room thermostat comprising a circuit board, at least one electric relay mounted to the circuit board, a primary casing defining a chamber for housing the circuit board with said at least one electric relay mounted thereon, wherein said chamber is filled with a sound insulating material to dampen the noise generated by said at least one electric relay.
2. A room thermostat as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one electric relay comprises switch components housed in a secondary casing received within said primary casing, said secondary casing being embedded in said sound insulation material.
3. A room thermostat as defined in claim, 2, wherein said sound insulating material is a potting compound.
4. A room thermostat as defined in claim 3, wherein said potting compound is selected from a group consisting of: epoxy and urethane compounds.
5. A room thermostat as defined in claim 1, wherein said electric relay is substantially surrounded on all sides by said sound insulation material.
6. A room thermostat as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one electric relay is provided with a vent for venting ionized air produced during operation thereof.
7. A room thermostat as defined in claim 6, wherein said vent is connect in communication with a passage defined in said primary casing for venting the ionized air outside of the primary casing, and wherein one of said vent and said passage extends axially through a male projection received in a corresponding female part from which extends a second one of said vent and said passage, said male

projection and said female projection cooperating to ensure proper axial alignment of said vent and said passage.

8. A room thermostat as defined in claim 7, wherein a gasket is provided about said male projection to prevent said insulation material from plugging said vent and said passage.

9. A room thermostat as defined in claim 7, wherein said male projection extends from said electric relay, and wherein said female part is defined in an inner surface of said primary casing.

10. A room thermostat as defined in claim 1, wherein at least one opening is defined in said primary casing for allowing said insulation material to be poured into said chamber after the primary casing has been closed.

11. An acoustically insulated electric unit comprising at least one electromechanical switch, a casing housing said electromechanical switch, said casing being filled with a sound insulation material such that said electromechanical switch be substantially completely embedded in said sound insulation material.

12. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 11, wherein said electromechanical switch comprises an electromagnet and an armature housed in a secondary casing received within said casing, said secondary casing being embedded in said sound insulation material.

13. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 12, wherein said sound insulating material is a potting compound.

14. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 13, wherein said potting compound is selected from a group consisting of: epoxy and urethane compounds.

15. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 11, wherein said electromechanical switch is provided with a vent for venting ionized air produced during operation thereof.

16. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 15, wherein said vent extends through a nipple projecting outwardly from said secondary casing, said nipple being received in a corresponding recess defined in an inner surface of said casing, and wherein an outlet passage extends from said recess for allowing the ionized air to be vented outside of the casing.

17. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 16, wherein a seal is provided about said nipple to prevent said sound insulation material from plugging said vent and said outlet passage.

18. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 11, wherein at least one opening is defined in said casing for allowing said sound insulation material to be poured therein.

19. An acoustically insulated electric unit as defined in claim 11, wherein said electric unit is a baseboard relay.

20. A method for acoustically damping the click sound produced by an electromechanical switch comprising an electromagnet and an armature, the method comprising the steps of: disposing the electromagnet and the armature in a casing, and filling the casing with a sound insulating potting compound.

21. A method as defined in claim 20, wherein said electromechanical switch comprises a switch casing, said switch casing being mounted in said casing.